

CLAIMS:

1. A salt platform, comprising:

at least one hub, said hub having at least one locking element.

2. The salt platform of claim 1 further comprising at least one radial brace, the radial brace having at least one end with a locking element, the locking elements of the radial brace and the hub engaged to secure the hub to the radial brace

3. A salt platform, comprising:

a plurality of hubs, each hub having at least one locking element;

at least one radial brace, the radial brace having first and second ends, each end

having a locking element to engage a locking element in a hub to secure the radial brace and hub together

4. The salt platform of Claim 3 wherein the hubs each are provided with a plurality of locking elements formed by locking slots about an outer circumference thereof.

5. The salt platform of Claim 3 further comprising a plurality of curved braces having locking elements to secure a curved brace to a hub.

6. The salt platform of Claim 3 wherein the hubs each define a cylindrical socket for receiving vertical support members.

7. The salt platform of Claim 3 wherein each of said curved braces has at least one pipe holder for receiving a pipe section.

8. The salt platform of Claim 3 wherein the locking element in the hub includes a T-shaped slot and the locking element in the radial brace includes a T-shaped portion received in the T-shaped slot.

9. The salt platform of Claim 3 wherein the locking element in the hub includes a plurality of T-shaped slots distributed about an outer circumference of the hub.

10. The salt platform of Claim 9 wherein the plurality of T-shaped slots are distributed about the circumference at 30 angles to adjacent T-shaped slots.

11. The salt platform of Claim 8 wherein the hub further includes a locking bar at an end of said T-shaped slot.

12. The salt platform of Claim 3 further including at least one stub spoke, said stub spoke having a locking member and a pipe holder.

13. The salt platform of Claim 12 wherein the stub spoke further has a thinned section connecting the locking member and the pipe holder to permit pivotal motion therebetween.

14. A method of assembling a salt platform comprising the steps of:
inserting the locking element of a first member into a locking element of a hub to support a salt grid to lock the first member and hub together.

15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the step of inserting the locking member of a first member includes the step of inserting a locking member of a radial brace.

11162/2001

16. The method of Claim 14 wherein the step of inserting the locking member of a first member includes the step of inserting a locking member of a curved brace.

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17. The method of Claim 14 wherein the step of inserting the locking member of a first member includes the step of inserting a locking member of a stub spoke.

18. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of inserting a pipe section in a pipe holder formed on the first member.

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